## **CLAIMS**:

1. A paneling system having panels with improved hook shaped flanges on opposite sides of the panels and panel carriers with improved arms adapted to hold the panels' flanges, so as to enable easy installation and removal of individual panels; the system comprising:

5

a plurality of adjacent, longitudinally-extending panels; each panel having a pair of hook-like flanges on longitudinally-opposite sides; each hook-like flange forming a downwardly-open U-shaped channel above the bottom of the panel; a first hook-like flange of each panel having an inwardly-extending first top portion and, at its free end, a downwardly-extending first rim; a second hook-like flange of each panel having an outwardly-extending second rim, the second top portion and, at its free end, a downwardly-extending second rim, the second top portion being of substantially the same length, but slightly longer, than the first top portion; and the first rim being longitudinally spaced away from an adjacent side of the panel; and
a plurality of longitudinally spaced apart, parallel panel carriers, each carrier having a longitudinally-extending are with an upstanding free end forming an upwardly-open U-shaped channel; both the first top portion of a first flange on one longitudinal side of a first panel and the second top portion of a second flange on the opposite longitudinal si9de of an adjacent

10

15

20

2. The system of claim 1 wherein the first rim on the first flange of each panel comprises a downwardly-extending locking member with a downwardly and outwardly angled surface facing the adjacent side of the panel.

second panel being atop the arm of the carrier to attach the first and second panels to the carrier; the second top portion being atop the first top portion.

- 3. The system of claim 1 or 2 wherein an are of each carrier comprises an upwardly-extending locking lug that is longitudinally spaced away from the upstanding free end of the arm; the rims of the first and second panel, attached to the carrier, being on longitudinally opposite sides of the locking lug.
- 4. The system of claim 3 wherein the bottom of the rims of the first and second panel, attached to the carrier, contact the upper surface of the arm.

- 5. A panel, particularly a ceiling panel, of the system of any one of claims 1-
- 4, having on longitudinally-opposite sides the first hook-like flange and the second hook-like flange.
- 6. A panel carrier of the system of claim 2 or 3.

5